



## ORDINANCE 2025-15

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, IN CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, APPROVING A RECOMMENDATION OF THE ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION, IN ORDER TO ADOPT TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE ALEXANDRIA ZONING ORDINANCE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE REGULATIONS FOR TATTOO AND BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CITY.**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to KRS 100.211 and .212 the Alexandria Planning Commission held a public hearing on September 16, 2025, to hear testimony and evidence, and to consider and recommend to City Council to adopt zoning regulations for the operation of tattoo and body piercing business operations in the City of Alexandria; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission received and heard the professional Staff Report (Exhibit "A", attached) by Cindy Minter, heard testimony from the public, and received input and opinions from the City Administrator and the City Attorney, after which the Planning Commission unanimously adopted a Motion to recommend to City Council text amendments to regulate tattoo and body piercing establishments in the City's Highway Commercial zone (Exhibit "B", attached).

**WHEREAS**, the City Council now wishes to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and adopt this Ordinance in order to approve the zoning text amendments as set forth below.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOREGOING, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1:** The City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance is hereby amended by adopting zoning text amendments to **ARTICLE 2 – DEFINITIONS, SECTION 2.0 - WORDS AND PHRASES**, as follows:

**BODY PIERCING:** The act of penetrating the skin to make a hole, mark, or scar, generally permanent in nature. "Body piercing" does not include the use of a mechanized, pre-sterilized ear-piercing system that penetrates the outer perimeter or lobe of the ear or both. This definition does not include practices that are considered medical procedures by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, which may not be performed in a tattoo or body-piercing establishment.

**TATTOO:** To place any design, letter, scroll, figure, symbol or any other mark upon or under the skin or any person.

**SECTION 2:** The City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance is hereby amended by adopting zoning text amendments to **ARTICLE 3 - GENERAL REGULATIONS**, by creating new Section 3.33 therein, as follows:

**§ 3.33 TATTOO AND BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENTS.**

A. No person shall control, operate, conduct, maintain or manage any tattoo or body-piercing establishment or shall perform tattooing or body piercing on any person without complying with the requirements of this section. Failure to comply with any government regulation, health regulation, or zoning condition may result in the use being deemed non-conforming, and result in the revoking of the occupancy permit and/or conditional use permit.

B. No person shall control, operate, conduct or manage any tattoo or body-piercing establishment, whether or not actually performing the work of tattooing or body piercing, without first obtaining a permit from the Northern Kentucky Independent Health District.

C. State Regulations: The Kentucky Administrative Regulations provides guidance regarding the operation of tattoo and body piercing establishments. The Northern Kentucky Independent Health District administers these requirements and will conduct physical inspections to ensure compliance. Licenses will be required for each individual tattoo artist.

D. The Kentucky Administrative Regulations (902 KAR 45:065, 45:070) establishes rules regulating the construction, operational, and sanitation practices of tattoo parlors to ensure services are provided in a safe and effective manner.

E. When permitted as a conditional use, it may also be determined that a particular intensity of the use or accessory structure/use is unsuitable for the neighborhood environs.

**SECTION 3:** The City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance is hereby amended by adopting zoning text amendments to **ARTICLE 4 - ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONES & ZONE REGULATIONS, SECTION 4.18 (HC) HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL ZONE, SUBSECTION (B) PERMITTED USES**, by amending use number (53) and creating new use number (60) therein, as follows:

...

(B) PERMITTED USES:

...

(53) Specialty Retail (Commercial activity selling specialized merchandise, and which employs fewer than 10 full time equivalents, or utilizes no more than 10,000

square feet (Example: Book, card, stationery, gift and/or stationery, and/or novelty stores, pet stores, clothing stores, consumer electronic store, hobby stores and/or antique stores, but not an Adult Entertainment establishment or book store, [tattoo parlors,] pawn shops or drug paraphernalia shops)

(60) Tattoo and body piercing establishments with operating hours from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm; and shall not be located within one mile of existing establishments.

**SECTION 4.** The records of the Planning Commission proceedings are incorporated herein by reference as if fully rewritten herein including without limitation the Staff Report dated September 9, 2025 (Exhibit "A"), and the Planning Commission's Recommendation to City Council (Exhibit "B"), as well as the Minutes of the September 16, 2025, Planning Commission meeting/public hearing.

**SECTION 5.** This Ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption and publication; this Ordinance may be published by Summary.

**SECTION 6.** Should any section, clause, line, paragraph, or part of this Ordinance be held unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the same shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 7.** All Ordinances or parts of any Ordinances in conflict therewith, to the extent of such conflict, if any, are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 8.** The foregoing ordinance was introduced by Council Member Robert Strong, was read, passed and adopted by Council of the City of Alexandria, Kentucky, meeting in **regular sessions on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2025, and on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025, with 6 Yes votes, 0 No votes, and 0 Abstentions**, and was thereafter approved by the Mayor and ordered published in Summary according to law.

APPROVED:

  
MAYOR ANDY SCHABELL

ATTEST:

  
STEPHANIE TARTER CITY CLERK

Published: 11/01/25

## LEGAL NOTICE

The Alexandria Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 7:00 PM at 8236 W. Main St. Alexandria, KY for the purpose of hearing testimony for the following cases:

File Number: PZ-25-039

Applicant: City of Alexandria Planning Commission

Request: Zoning text amendments related to tattoo establishments in Highway Commercial (HC) zones

Persons interested in these cases are invited to be present. Interested persons may attend the meeting, and/or submit their comments in advance by emailing [pzadmin@campbellcountky.gov](mailto:pzadmin@campbellcountky.gov) or calling 859-292-3880 no later than noon September 15, 2025. For record keeping purposes, comments should also include the name and address of the person(s) commenting. Comments regarding a case will be taken by email, phone and in-person.



**September 9, 2025**

City of Alexandria Planning and Zoning Commission  
8236 W. Main St.  
Alexandria, KY 41001

The Alexandria Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday September 16, 2025 at 7:00 PM for the following case:

Case: PZ-25-039  
Applicant: City of Alexandria  
Request: Zoning text amendments related to tattoo establishments in Highway Commercial (HC) zones

This public hearing was advertised in the August 26, 2025 edition of the NKY LINK Reader ([linknky.com](http://linknky.com)).

\*\*\*\*\*

***See Appendix for proposed text amendments***

**File Number PZ-25-039:** The City is requesting approval of zoning text amendments to the following sections of the Alexandria Zoning Ordinance:

- Article 2, Section 2.0 - Definitions
- Article 3, Add paragraph regarding tattoo and body piercing establishments
- Article 4, Section 4.17 (NSC) Neighborhood Shopping Center Zone
- Article 4, Section 4.18 (HC) Highway Commercial Zone

**Background:**

“Tattoo Parlors” are currently not permitted in the City of Alexandria. They are specifically excluded within the Neighborhood Shopping Center (NSC) and Highway Commercial (HC) Zones among the list of “specialty retailers”. No other zone regulation mentions tattoo or body art establishments.

The purposes of these proposed revisions are to:

1. Define terms and provide consistency in language in the code of ordinances.
2. Provide regulations in the code of ordinances for the operation of tattoo and body art establishments.

**Staff Comment:**

Permitted uses may be staff-approved without a public hearing.

The Conditional Use Permit application process will involve a public hearing process giving the Board of Adjustments the discretion to approve any application proposing to open a tattoo or body piercing establishment. The Board of Adjustments, the approving authority, would also have an opportunity to add conditions of approval to any Conditional Use Permit application.

Tattoo and body piercing establishments shall also comply with a number of state regulations including permits, certifications and inspections through the Northern Kentucky Independent Health District.

**Staff Recommendation:**

To approve the text amendments to Articles 2, 3 and 4 of the Official Zoning Ordinance, and forward the recommendation to City Council for adoption.

**Bases for Staff Recommendation:**

1. Per Kentucky Revised Statutes KRS 100.207 and KRS 100.211, the Planning Commission has the authority to recommend the adoption of text changes to the City.
2. Proper notice of the public hearing has been given in accordance with KRS 424 and Article XVII Amendment Procedure.

Respectfully submitted,  
Campbell County Planning, Zoning and Building Department



Kirk Hunter, AICP  
Principal Planner

## APPENDIX

Text amendment additions in blue underline and deletions in ~~red-strike-out~~.

### ARTICLE 2 - DEFINITIONS

#### SECTION 2.0 - WORDS AND PHRASES:

BODY PIERCING: The act of penetrating the skin to make a hole, mark, or scar, generally permanent in nature. "Body piercing" does not include the use of a mechanized, pre-sterilized ear-piercing system that penetrates the outer perimeter or lobe of the ear or both. This definition does not include practices that are considered medical procedures by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, which may not be performed in a tattoo or body-piercing establishment.

TATTOO: To place any design, letter, scroll, figure, symbol or any other mark upon or under the skin or any person with ink or any other substance resulting in the permanent coloration of the skin, including permanent make-up or permanent jewelry, by the aid of needles or any other instrument designed to touch or puncture the skin. This definition does not include practices that are considered medical procedures by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, which may not be performed in a tattoo or body-piercing establishment.

### ARTICLE 3 GENERAL REGULATIONS

#### SECTION 3.33 TATTOO AND BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENTS

- A. No person shall control, operate, conduct, maintain or manage any tattoo or body-piercing establishment or shall perform tattooing or body piercing on any person without complying with the requirements of this section. Failure to comply with any government regulation, health regulation, or zoning condition may result in the use being deemed non-conforming and result in the revoking of the occupancy permit and/or conditional use permit.
- B. No person shall control, operate, conduct or manage any tattoo or body-piercing establishment, whether or not actually performing the work of tattooing or body piercing, without first obtaining a permit from the Northern Kentucky Independent Health District.
- C. State Regulations: The Kentucky Administrative Regulations provides guidance regarding the operation of tattoo and body piercing establishments. The Northern Kentucky Independent Health District administers these requirements and will conduct physical inspections to ensure compliance. Licenses will be required for each individual tattoo artist.
- D. The Kentucky Administrative Regulations (902 KAR 45:065, 45:070) establishes rules regulating the construction, operational, and sanitation practices of tattoo parlors to ensure services are provided in a safe and effective manner.

- E. When permitted as a conditional use, it may also be determined that a particular intensity of the use or accessory structure/use is unsuitable for the neighborhood environs.

## **ARTICLE 4 – ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONES & ZONE REGULATIONS**

### **SECTION 4.17 (NSC) NEIGHBORHOOD SHOPPING CENTER ZONE**

““

#### **D. PERMITTED USES:**

...

53. Specialty Retail (Commercial activity selling specialized merchandise, and which employs fewer than 10 full time equivalents, or utilizes no more than 10,000 square feet (Example: Book, card, stationery, gift and/or stationery, and/or novelty stores, pet stores, clothing stores, consumer electronic store, hobby stores and/or antique stores, but not an Adult Entertainment establishment or book store, ~~tattoo parlors~~, pawn shops or drug paraphernalia shops)

...

60. [Tattoo and body piercing establishments](#)

#### **Option 2 as a conditional use:**

#### **D. CONDITIONAL USES:**

...

2. [Tattoo and body piercing establishments](#)

### **SECTION 4.18 (HC) HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL ZONE**

...

#### **E. PERMITTED USES:**

...

53. Specialty Retail (Commercial activity selling specialized merchandise, and which employs fewer than 10 full time equivalents, or utilizes no more than 10,000 square feet (Example: Book, card, stationery, gift and/or stationery, and/or novelty stores, pet stores, clothing stores, consumer electronic store, hobby stores and/or antique stores, but not an Adult Entertainment establishment or book store, ~~tattoo parlors~~, pawn shops or drug paraphernalia shops)

...

60. [Tattoo and body piercing establishments](#)

**Option 2 as a conditional use:**

**D. CONDITIONAL USES:**

...

**6. Tattoo and body piercing establishments**

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL**

The City of Alexandria Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 16, 2025 for the purpose of hearing and collecting evidence, and of reviewing and receiving public comment regarding the following request:

Case: PZ-25-039  
 Applicant: City of Alexandria  
 Request: Zoning text amendments related to tattoo establishments in Highway Commercial (HC) zones

The public hearing was conducted according to Kentucky State Law and Alexandria City Ordinances. Notice was published in the Legal Newspaper, and all interested persons were welcomed to attend and give verbal comments and/or written comments prior to or at the public hearing.

At the hearing, Cindy Minter, AICP, Director of the Campbell County Planning, Zoning and Building Department presented the Staff Report dated September 9, 2025, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit "A". Ms. Minter discussed the issues and options contained in the Staff Report, and answered questions.

At the hearing, members of the public - Jessie Hughes, Jada Reynolds and Don Stewart asked questions and gave testimony about the proposed text amendments. Ms. Minter, the City Administrator, and the City Attorney provided information regarding the background, legal and other related issues involved with this Application.

Upon conclusion of all of the testimony and evidence, the public hearing was closed and the Planning Commission discussed and deliberated the proposed text amendments. After discussing the issues involved, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to recommend to City Council to adopt the text amendments to the various sections of the Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, all as set forth below; and based upon the Staff Report and as discussed in the public hearing;

Text amendment additions in blue underline and deletions in ~~red-strike-out~~.

**ARTICLE 2 - DEFINITIONS**

**SECTION 2.0 - WORDS AND PHRASES:**

BODY PIERCING: The act of penetrating the skin to make a hole, mark, or scar, generally permanent in nature. "Body piercing" does not include the use of a mechanized, pre-sterilized ear-piercing system that

penetrates the outer perimeter or lobe of the ear or both. This definition does not include practices that are considered medical procedures by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, which may not be performed in a tattoo or body-piercing establishment.

TATTOO: To place any design, letter, scroll, figure, symbol or any other mark upon or under the skin or any person with ink or any other substance resulting in the permanent coloration of the skin, including permanent make-up or permanent jewelry, by the aid of needles or any other instrument designed to touch or puncture the skin. This definition does not include practices that are considered medical procedures by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, which may not be performed in a tattoo or body-piercing establishment.

### **ARTICLE 3 GENERAL REGULATIONS**

#### SECTION 3.33 TATTOO AND BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENTS

A. No person shall control, operate, conduct, maintain or manage any tattoo or body-piercing establishment or shall perform tattooing or body piercing on any person without complying with the requirements of this section. Failure to comply with any government regulation, health regulation, or zoning condition may result in the use being deemed non-conforming and result in the revoking of the occupancy permit and/or conditional use permit.

B. No person shall control, operate, conduct or manage any tattoo or body-piercing establishment, whether or not actually performing the work of tattooing or body piercing, without first obtaining a permit from the Northern Kentucky Independent Health District.

C. State Regulations: The Kentucky Administrative Regulations provides guidance regarding the operation of tattoo and body piercing establishments. The Northern Kentucky Independent Health District administers these requirements and will conduct physical inspections to ensure compliance. Licenses will be required for each individual tattoo artist.

D. The Kentucky Administrative Regulations (902 KAR 45:065, 45:070) establishes rules regulating the construction, operational, and sanitation practices of tattoo parlors to ensure services are provided in a safe and effective manner.

E. When permitted as a conditional use, it may also be determined that a particular intensity of the use or accessory structure/use is unsuitable for the neighborhood environs.

**ARTICLE 4 – ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONES & ZONE REGULATIONS**

**SECTION 4.18 (HC) HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL ZONE**

...

a. PERMITTED USES:

...

53. Specialty Retail (Commercial activity selling specialized merchandise, and which employs fewer than 10 full time equivalents, or utilizes no more than 10,000 square feet (Example: Book, card, stationery, gift and/or stationery, and/or novelty stores, pet stores, clothing stores, consumer electronic store, hobby stores and/or antique stores, but not an Adult Entertainment establishment or book store, ~~tattoo parlors~~, pawn shops or drug paraphernalia shops)

...

60. Tattoo and body piercing establishments with operating hours from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm; and shall not be located within one mile of existing establishments.

This recommendation of the Planning Commission shall be forwarded to Alexandria City Council for further consideration and adoption according to law.

Respectfully submitted,

/SS/ ***Nick Reitman***

Nick Reitman, Chairman

Alexandria Planning Commission